Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Children

*522. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH:
DR. SHRIKANT
RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the centrally sponsored scheme of pre-Matric Scholarships for children of those engaged in unclean operations has since been modified; and

(b) if so, what are the changed and modified guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the changed and modified guidelines governing the Scheme is enclosed.

Statement

Regulations Governing the Centrally Sponsored Name of Pre-matric Scholarships to Children of Those engage in Unclean Occupations I.E. Scavenging, Tanning and Flay Applicable with Effect from 25 Feb., 1994.

1. Object:

The object of the Scheme is to provide financial assistance to enable the children of scavengers of dry latrines, tanners, flayers and sweepers who have traditional link with scavenging to pursue pre-matric education.

2. Conditions of Eligibility:

(i) Scholarships will be admissible to the children of Indian Nationals who irrespective of their religion, are actively engaged in scavenging of dry latrine and other unclean occupations i.e. tanning and flaying only, which are traditionally considered 'unclean'.

(ii) It is not possible to draw a line of demarcation between the sweepers and scavengers since most of the sweepers are also doing the job of scavenging. Hence, the benefit of this scheme will be available to the children of those sweepers only who have traditional links with scavenging.

(iii) In rural areas, children of only those who are actually engaged in scavenging of dry latrines, tanning and flaying will be covered. Preference will be given to the two municipal employees and rural areas

(iv) Children who are born to parents who are not engaged in such occupations, but have been adopted by such persons will be eligible only after a lapse of three years from the date of such adoption provided further that they have been living with the adopted parents since the date of such adoption.

(v) Such candidates will be eligible only if their parents furnish such certificates (such as furnishing of proof of their occupation, date of adoption etc.) as may be required by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration.

(vi) A certificate should be obtaned from the candidates each year to the effect that at least one parent is still engaged in an unclean occupation as defined in the object of the scheme and para 2(i) to (iv) above.

(vii) There is no restriction as to the number of children of the same parents who would be eligible for award of scholarship upto class VIII subject however, to the condition that if a third of subsequent

child is born after 1-4-1993 a total of only two children in the Family would be eligible for such scholarship awards.

(viii) In respect of Classes IX & X, onlytwo children of the same parents would be eligible for the award of scholarships.

(ix) No income ceiling has been prescribed.

3. Duration and Course of Studies:

The scholarships may be given to students enrolled in class I oraany subsequent class of pre-matric stage in the case of day scholars, and class III or any subsequent class of pre-matric stage in the case of hostelers. The scholarship will terminate at the end of class X. The duration of scholarship to in an academic year is ten months.

4. Institution of Study:

The scholarships will be tenable only in such institutions and for such pre-matriculation courses which have been duly recognised by the concerned State Gov ernments and Union Territory Administ rations.

5. Definition of Hostel:

Normally, the term 'Hostel' means a common residential building having a common mess for students. However, a residence run by R.K. Missions or and such other reputable organisation approved by the Government of India may also be deemed as a Hostel.

6. Coverage, Value of Scholarship and AD-HOC Grant:

I. *Hostelers*

The students as hostelers will be covered from Class III to V. The rates of scholarships are as under:—

Class III to X	Rs.200/- per month for 10 months
Class IX to X	Rs.250/- per month for 10 months

II. *Day Scholars*

The students as day scholars will be covered from Class I to Class X. The rates of scholarships are as under:—

Class I to V	Rs. 25/- per month for 10 months
Class VI to VIII	Rs. 40/- per month for 10 months
Class IX to X	Rs. 50/- per month for 10 months

III. AD-HOC GRANT

An adhoc grant of Rs. 500/- per student per annum to all students i.e. hostelers as well as day scholars.

IV. The scholarship amount will be payable from the date of joining to the date of leaving the school, excluding the period of vacation which will be about 10 months in a year except in the cases where the student enters late or leaves early in the midst of academic year.

7. Administrative Authority:

The scheme will be implemented and adminstered by the concerned State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in accordance with its regulations in force.

8. Selection:

The concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations will lay down the detailed procedure for selection of students.

9. Authority responsible for providing Hostel Accommodation:

The concerned State Government and Union Territory Adminstration will be responsible to provide hostel accommodation to the hostelers. The scheme covers provision for renting of building for such hostelers near the school if hostel facilities are not available in the school itself — rent reasonability to be certified by competent authority of the State Government. Provision is also there for appointment of full time paid hostel wardens where the number of

students are large, otherwise one of the school teachers is to be appointed as hostel warden on an honorarium as extra remuneration for doing the work of hostel warden.

10. Other conditions for a ward:

(i) The students may not be allowed to take up employment or render help to parents in their work during the course of studies.

(ii) The award will be discontinued if a student fails to secure annual promotion except in case of unavoidable reasons to be certified by the competent authority of the scheme.

(iii) Coaching facilities, especially to weak students may be provided.

(iv) If a student violates school discipline or any other terms and conditions of the scholarship, scholarship may be suspended or even cancelled, subject to the satisfaction of the competent school authority. The State Government/Union Territory Administrations can also directly cancel the award if duly satisfied of the reasons of violation of these regulations governing the scheme.

(v) Migration of students from one institution to another, would not normally be allowed during the course of the academic year except under exceptional circumstances and in the interest of student's academic career.

(vi) The scholar obtaining benefits under this scheme is not allowed to avail of benefits under any other pre-matric scholarship scheme.

(vii) The student should be regular in attendance for which the yardstick is to be decided by the competent authority of the school.

11. Renewal of Scholarship:

The scholarship, once awarded, may be renewed during next academic year also by the concerned State Government/ Union Territory Adminstration unless the competent authority of the school recommends to the State Government/ Union Territory Administration, to discontinue the award with reference to relevant clause of these regulations governing the scheme.

12. Announcement of Scheme:

The scheme will be announced by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Adminstration will in time, by giving advertisements in the leading language newspapers local dailies and by using other suitable publicity media.

13. Mode of Applying:

The concerned Department of the State Government/Union Terriory Adminstration will supply the application forms, which should be received back by that Deptt. alongwith prescribed certificate, by the last date.

14. Pattern of Financial Assistance:

The scheme will be funded on co-sharing basis, i.e. 50% of the total expenditure will be borne by the Government of India as Central Assistance (over and above the committed Liability) and 50% by the concerned State Government. The Union Territories will however, be provided 100% Central Assistance (over and above the Committed Liability).

15. Changes in Scheme:

These regulations governing the scheme may be changed by Government of India at any time as and when considered necessary.